



Arlington Council on Aging

Minutes

Date: Thursday February 17, 2022 Time: 6:00 pm

Present: Michael Quinn, Kristine Shah, Sheila Connerney, Anne Brown, Nancy Cox, Pat Baillieu, Mary Hung

Associate members: Bob Tosi Jr., Karen Nichols, Rick Fentin

Minuteman Board member: Ann Bruhn

Location: This meeting will be conducted virtually via Zoom, following the rules set forth by the Governor's Executive Order on Remote Participation. These meetings are open to the public and all are welcome. Please call 781-316-3401 or e-mail KShah@town.arlington.ma.us for the link to join the virtual meeting which can be accessed by computer with internet access or by telephone for audio access only.

Kristine Shah, Executive Director

Michael Quinn, Chair

Sheila Connerney, Secretary

The Council's primary responsibilities are to design, promote, and implement programs and services to address the needs of the community's elder population, and to coordinate existing services in the community.

1. Call to order at 6:02pm
2. Citizen's Open Forum – None.
3. Minutes of the January 2022 meeting for approval – Sheila Connerney moved to approve the minutes, Anne Brown seconded. Minutes approved.
4. Executive Director's Report
 - a. Age/Dementia Friendly Action Plan Presentation- Caitlin Coyle, PhD UMass Boston

Discussion among board members about next steps once the plan is approved by Select Board. Steering committee may be put together independent of COA Board.

5. Report of the Chair – Sand and salt delivery project completed by Troop 313, Colin Cuypers, and are ongoing by the COA.
6. Minuteman Senior Services Report – Notes were forwarded to the Board including: Minuteman reviewed yearly budget at recent meeting; continues to be difficult to find home health aides; ongoing constraints due to Covid pandemic; in May, there will be a walking fundraiser.
7. ASA Liaison Report – COA has met with ASA leadership board. ASA will become a volunteer group under the COA in the next year or so.
8. Old Business

a. Elderly and Disabled Tax Relief- Committee Positions Posted

9. New Business -- Anne Brown: Civilian Police Advisory Committee met 2/15/2022. Final recommendation will go before Select Board on 2/23/2022. We will discuss at March 2022 meeting.

Bob Tosi: Arlington Education Foundation is doing a fundraising run on May 5th.

10. Other Community Announcements -- None

11. Adjourn 7:15pm. Motion to adjourn by Anne Brown, seconded by Mary Hung.

Next meeting: March 17, 2022

Executive Director's Report

Kristine Shah

I. Center Renovation

- a. On February 10, the COA Staff moved in to completed offices on the ground floor.
- b. ACMI is scheduled to record a tour of the renovated Center on February 17.
- c. Jenny Raitt scheduling tours for Redevelopment Board, COA Board and ASA Board.
- d. Completion of the program spaces in the building should only take another month; program spaces will be authorized for use as soon as building entrances are completed.
- e. Capital campaign donor acknowledgement plaques and main display have been ordered.

II. COA Services and Program Update

- a. During the December/January COVID-19 surge, the COA moved to all virtual programming for the month. As of February 1, we began holding in person activities and events again, as well as increased capacity on our vans.
- b. AARP volunteers began in person tax appointments on February 11; appointments will be Fridays between Feb 4 and April 15.

III. Fire at Chestnut Manor

- a. The COA has been extremely involved in the re-homing of displaced residents due to the Chestnut Manor fire.
- b. On the day of the fire, we created a website for the community to donate to the fire victims; to date we have raised over \$34,000. These funds are going towards the costs incurred by the residents that were displaced (20).
- c. COA Staff have been meeting daily with the housing authority to discuss each resident, moving logistics and replacement of personal items.
- d. Due to required work in Chestnut Manor impacting the heat, the COA planned an all-day event to host residents at Town Hall while power/heat was shut off on February 15.

IV. The following grant applications have been submitted:

- a. \$15,000 Transportation Grant from Lahey- APPROVED
 - b. \$10,000 Hot Spot grant from Mount Auburn- PENDING
 - c. \$20,000 Adult Day Health Scholarships Grant from CDBG- PENDING
 - d. \$31,540 Transportation Program Grant from CDBG- PENDING
 - e. \$52,922 Volunteer Coordinator Grant from CDBG- PENDING
- V. Age Friendly/Dementia Friendly
- a. Action Plan presentation by Caitlin Coyle, PhD, Research Fellow UMass Boston

Link to COA newsletter: <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/departments/health-human-services/council-on-aging/senior-newsletter>